

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a composition for efficiently protecting and preserving organs, tissues or cells. In particular, the present invention provides a protective composition which can be used during operations. Specifically, the present invention provides a composition for protecting and preserving organs, tissues or cells, comprising a polyphenol. A method is also provided for protecting an organ, tissue or cell in a subject, comprising 1) exposing the organ, tissue or cell to a polyphenol. Such a composition and a polyphenol is effective in protecting a function of an organ (particularly, the heart, brain, nerve, spinal cord and the like).